

Division of Developmental Disabilities

IS PLANNING TO USE A NEW DDD Assessment

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) will begin using the new DDD Assessment on June 1, 2007.

What is a DDD Assessment?

An assessment is a group of questions that your case manager will ask you to help decide what supports you need. It is a way to help DDD do the best job it can for you.

When will I receive the new DDD Assessment?

Your case manager will begin using these questions on June 1, 2007. That seems like a long time away, but we want you to know that it is coming. If you have Medicaid Personal Care (MPC), your case manager will ask some new and different questions along with the ones you are used to answering.

Why is my case manager going to use the new DDD Assessment?

DDD wants to ask every person the same questions. Case managers will be using computers to help them remember to ask all the important questions and get your answers written down. This will help DDD make sure that everyone's abilities are measured in the same way and nothing gets forgotten.

What will it mean for me?

DDD will be able to ask lots of questions that will help your case manager do the best job possible for you. The new DDD Assessment will help your case manager learn what your abilities are and what you need to help you plan for the future.

Can I fail it?

No. You cannot fail it. It is about you and your abilities and needs and there are no right or wrong answers, just your answers.

What if I don't understand the questions?

You can have someone with you who will help you. You can choose who that person is. If you have a guardian, that person will be invited to be at the meeting also.

How long will it take?

The first time, the DDD Assessment will probably take about 2 to 4 hours. If it gets too long for you, you can ask your case manager to do part of it on one day and part on another day.

The Assessment will help you and your case manager discuss what you need to help you plan for the future.

What will be in the new DDD Assessment?

There are three parts to the new DDD Assessment:

1. Your case manager will gather a lot of information about you and give you a chance to say what kinds of supports and services you need to live in the community, how your health is, and if you have help right now.
2. The second part is only for people who are already getting DDD services or who have been told they can have them. You will answer questions that help your case manager learn more about what you need to use those services.
3. If you get services, a plan will be created. It is called the Individual Support Plan (ISP). Every year your case manager will work with you and people you care about to prepare your plan.

What if I don't want to answer the questions?

You can choose not to answer the questions, but if you want to have services from DDD, you or your representative will need to answer them.

What happens after I answer all the questions?

- If you find out that you are not getting services, your case manager will give you a copy of the information you have shared and that is all that will happen.
- If you find out that you are getting services, your case manager will also help you make a plan for the coming year and give you a copy of that plan.

What if I don't like my plan?

Your case manager will explain to you that you have the right to an appeal, which means you can tell someone else why you disagree with the plan. The person who reviews the appeal will decide what happens next.

What if my needs change?

If your needs change, call your case manager right away so that he or she can come and get new information.

What if I still have questions about the new DDD Assessment?

You will probably think of lots of questions between now and when you have your first DDD Assessment. When you do, ask your case manager, an advocate or your representative, and they will give you more information.

If you have questions:

Call your case manager or see our website at:
www.1dshs.wa.gov/ddd/CAP.shtml